

Sept., 1973 Issue

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*****CLUB NOTES*****

6M AREC	50.9	Sunday, 8 PM Local Time
10M Rag Chew	28.8	Fridays, 9:30 PM
Novice AREC	21.115	Mondays, 8:30 PM
Friendship Net	7.265	3rd Sunday, 1:00 PM

*****CLUB MEETING SEPT. 5th AT THE CLUBROOM*****

*****SEPT. 5th MEETING-RADAR*****

Barring no unforeseen calamities, earthquakes, accidents, or unexpected visits by the stork, Mr. Ron Hascup, of D&R Radar Service Inc, expects to be on-hand to give us the long-awaited lecture demonstration of the police radar set. Also, we are planning to invite representatives of the municipal police departments in Gloucester County to attend the meeting to hear Mr. Hascup, so plan to be on hand-but remember to drive with caution lest you be an integral part of the live (?) demonstration. See you on the 5th. (house chairman John, WB2GKH, sez he finally has the air conditioner fixed for your listening comfort).

*****NEW MEMBERS*****

Welcome aboard Paul Loeb, WA2QIV, and Jim Ploucher, W2GZE. Paul should give WA2VEE and WB2BPX some strong competition down Holly Bush way whereas Jim is high-and-dry way up in Cherry Hill. Jim puts that FB sig down here many a Fri. net night and he is the author of the recent article on the antenna coupler. Glad to have both of you guys on the GCARC bandwagon.

*****FAMOUS QUOTATIONS DEPARTMENT*****

No job is impossible for the guy who doesn't have to do it himself.
Some of us are like tugboats. We toot our loudest when in a fog.

*****DEFINITION*****

A fine is a tax for doing bad.--A tax is a fine for doing good.
(tnx to Aug 1973 Bandspread)

*****APOLOGIES*****

To Darrell Neron, whose call is WB2BVV, not WB2BVW, as erroneously published last month. This was the editors error-none other.

*****WA2NPD TO TEACH AT WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP*****

The Washington Township Adult Evening School has signed up Doug, WA2NPD, to teach the novice radio class at the township High School starting about Sept. 17th on Monday nights. The class will run until about Jan. 1st and 12 are needed to justify the class. Doug states that this activity will in no way interfere with or nullify the club sponsored code classes which, if sufficient interest is generated, will start as usual in early October. More later.

*****HAM RADIO, TODAY, TOMORROW, OR NEVER.*****
 by Harry McCormick, WA2SEA.

By now everyone has probably heard a lot of talk about the situation the Amateur fraternity is in today. After reading the remarks made by A. Prose Walker, Chief of the Amateur and Citizens Radio Division of the F.C.C., on two different occasions before amateur groups, it scares many of us as to what the future holds in store for the average Ham and for Amateur Radio as we know it today. Mr. Walker is one of the top men in the F.C.C. today and surely his thinking must in some way reflect the views of many responsible persons in the F.C.C. (Mr. Walker is retiring sometime this year, but eventually someone will assume his duties, and who knows what that persons ideas about the future of Amateur Radio will be.)

Lets take a look at what has happened and is about to happen to OUR bands.

1. The 160 meter band. Without going into a lot of research as to when it happened, but I believe it was an aftermath of WW 2. We now share the 160 meter band with "LORAN". (LORAN is Long Range Aid to Navigation.) Loran was developed during WW 2 to facilitate navigation of ships at sea for the Allied Nations.

2. The 420 to 450 MHz band is now, or will soon be shared with a new radio navigational system, known as "HIRAN", to be used in conjunction with off-shore oil exploration and oil well operations.

3. The 11 meter band, as we all know was taken completely from amateurs and turned over to the citizens band.

4. Now they are proposing to take a portion of the 220 MHz band, (224 to 225 MHz.), and make a new class E, Citizens Band.

So many of us have taken the attitude that "Oh well, I never used those bands anyhow". But who knows what will be next, maybe it will be part or ALL of YOUR favorite band. Like Doug Gehring said at one of our recent Board of Directors meetings, "By the time I'm ready to retire, there may not be any amateur frequencies left."

As you all know, Amateur Radio exists because it qualifies as a "Service". Or put another the word "PICON" comes to mind. PICON meaning in the Public Interest, Convenience or Necessity. To retain our frequencies and to qualify as a service, what can you and I do? One thing for certain, talking to your friends across town or around the world doesn't qualify as a service.

Speaking as your Emergency Coordinator for Gloucester County, I say you should do something to help us retain our frequencies, by providing a service, or at least be ready to provide a service, if it is ever needed. What can you do? You could or should belong

to a traffic net, or get involved in the R.A.C.E.S. organization, or your local A.R.E.C. program.

Naturally, being EC I feel qualified to say "Get involved in the A.R.E.C. program." You may say how can I help the A.R.E.C. program? But I'm sure most of you already know the answer to that question. For those of you who are new to Amateur Radio or new to our club, I'd like to point out a few pertinent facts.

Every Sunday evening (starting Sept. 16th.) at 8:00 P.M. local time we have an A.R.E.C. net on 6 meters (50.9). This is the backbone of our A.R.E.C. program in Gloucester County. Friday evenings we have a net on 10 meters (28.8) at 9:30 P.M. If I could get someone to take on the job of Assistant EC, perhaps in the near future, we could get back to having an A.R.E.C. net on 10 meters instead of the present rag--chew net.

You may say "I can't get on six, I don't have any 6 meter gear". Or I can't get on ten because I can't operate that frequency. Or "I'm only a Novice, I can't do much." But let me remind you of our 15 meter Novice net, that meets on 21.110 MHz. on CW, on Monday evening at 8:30 P.M. The purpose of this net is to get Novices and newcomers used to working in a net, so that when the time comes you can **step right** into an existing net on one of the other frequencies.

Our nets are usually limited to about one hour. So how much of a sacrifice is it to take one hour a week to devote to a worthwhile cause? I'd say its a small price to pay for the privilege of **holding an amateur license.**

If you think the A.R.E.C. isn't your dish, how about R.A.C.E.S. I'm sure Paul Thomson, WA2PGJ, the County CD radio officer could use your talents. Or maybe you would like a traffic net. Bill Frambes, WB2FJE, is net manager for the Post Office Net. I'm sure he would like to have you become a regular check-in on his net.

The point I'm trying to get across is this. "If you want to enjoy the benefits of Amateur Radio, YOU must pay the price, by providing a service"

(ed. note: A well-written, pertinent message, many thanks Harry)

*****OFFICIAL BULLETIN NO 435*****

Radioteletype stations in Havana and Moscow with spurious emissions every four or five kilohertz continue to cause harmful interference on 20 meters. Every possible diplomatic pressure is being exerted to solve the problem. ARRL HD WOULD LIKE ALL THOSE AFFECTED TO CONTINUE SUBMITTING COMPLAINTS, WHICH ARE BEING PROCESSED THROUGH FCC. AR

*****OFFICIAL BULLETIN NO 436*****

The ARRL Board of Directors during its second 1973 meeting in Hartford Conn July 19 and 20 established ARRL policy in both regulatory and operating fields which will greatly affect the future course of the league and amateur radio.

Reflecting strong views of the membership, directors agreed that every effort should be made to convince FCC of the continuing need for the full 220-225 MHz amateur band, and laid plans for an energetic and comprehensive defense of the frequencies against attempted inroads by citizens radio service. In another regulatory action, relief will be sought from FCC in relaxation of repeater rules, still felt after experience to be much too limiting, particularly in areas of licensing procedures, monitoring and control, antenna installations, remote bases and system configuration changes. With primary emphasis on continuance and expansion of the amateur space satellite program, the board directed the establishment of an ARRL Foundation to attract financial support for space and other innovative projects. The sum of \$38,000 was advanced to underwrite design and construction costs of Oscar Seven, hopefully to be in orbit early next year.

Additional staff personnel were authorized to implement preparation for an eventual ITU frequency conference. A grant was made for refurbishing the station installation at 4U1ITU of the International Amateur Radio Club in Geneva. After extensive informal discussion, the board favored continuance of some form of races but deferred establishing the leagues final position until a special AD HOC committee of experts has completed its study. Final approval was given the emergency communications advisory committee. Elimination of the separate phone certificate for DXCC was postponed one year for further study.

Subjects assigned for committee study include expansion of space in QST for technical articles, the use of facsimile on all amateur bands, an expanded public relations program nationally and also through section appointments, and a license expiration notice service. The second 1974 meeting of the board will be held in New York City coincident with the ARRL National Convention dates.

Minutes of the meeting will appear in September QST AR

*****LES BELLES*****

Have a good time at the picnic? Like to have another nice gathering? The forthcoming ARRL Roanoke Division Convention will be held at the new Sheraton Inn & International Conference Center over the weekend of September 14-15 and the 16th at Reston, Virginia (near the Dulles airport) which is near D.C.

This convention is sponsored by some sixteen clubs in Northern Virginia and the D.C. area. There is a well planned program catering to a large group of the Amateur Radio Fraternity with lots of extra activities for the xyl. Some of the top brass of ARRL, namely President Dannals, General Manager Huntoon as well as a number of the directors including Noel Eaton, and Connie Mac, will be present. Another highlight will be the Naval Research Laboratory 50th Anniversary Exhibit oriented to Amateur Radio. Those of you who have not heard-- our son is now working in this Laboratory. The National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (formerly ESSA) will also exhibit--aimed at Ham Radio. There will be fabulous LADIES PROGRAM and luncheon as well as a ladies Sunday brunch and forum. Also there will be a bus tour of the Washington, D.C. area. Perhaps Nancy Deuber will be wearing her new beaded shoes to this convention!

Like prizes? There are many prizes to be given to all ladies present! For registration please contact yours truly and I will be glad to give further information.

Some of the gals attending are members of the WAYLARC's-- the Washington Area Young Ladies' Radio Club and Liz, W3CDQ, will be there. She finally decided to go On single sideband after 50 years of operating strictly CW!!

We heard in a grapevine fashion that Doris Bachman is thinking about moving to Delaware and wonder if this is true. If so, the trip down to Dulles airport will be much closer.

W2CDZ and myself plan to attend this convention and would be glad to have anyone join us. It is really great meeting all these other people with so much in common.

How about it? Anyone interested? See you at the meeting for your comments.

73's Rose Ellen, WA2FGS

*****EDITORIAL*****

Regarding A. Prose Walker's recent address to the amateur Service (see recent QST's for remarks and commentary), it appeared that the singular most-crushing blow aimed at the ham was the apparent FCC position concerning the amateur's lack of contribution to the electronic "state-of-the-art" during recent years. In effect Walker

stated the amateur contributions, after a whirlwind start during the roaring twenties and thirties, have gone steadily downhill whilst the fun and games aspect was never stronger than today. Let's make no mistake, if true, this is a powerful argument for the gaggle-the-hams clique, for this is the sort of fare that greatly impresses the academic thought-molders, the press, and state legislators(not necessarily in that order).

Our question to Mr. Walker must be thus, "How do you know for certain that the amateur technical contribution has in fact tapered-off?" How do you know that the Bell Labs PhD or the GE engineer (who admittedly are carrying the technical "ball" these days) aren't also hams or, if not, did not attain their original interest in electronics via an early start through ham radio? How many authors of todays technical articles, patents, etc., are simultaneously hams or perhaps holders of expired licenses? Can we say that amateur radio has not played a significant role if even a visit to the "shack" of some ham was sufficient to trigger the electronic genius into his field? The opinion here is that a very careful statistical survey need be conducted before the state-of-the-art theme can be trotted-out.

In addition, it must be remembered that far more industrial and academic laboratories exist today and that merely because the invention failed to originate in the basement workshop of some obscure ham cannot be construed to imply that the amateur was a priori not involved.

We suggest additional research with supporting data be the first order of business before further remarks in regard to the "state-of-the-art" are offered.

*****RAMBLINGS OF A GHOST WRITER*****

Well, the summer season is about over, and fall and then winter will follow which, putting it altogether, means that we should be coming into good DX weather. Of course, if you happen to be in that class who doesn't give a hoot for DX, the change in the seasons will mean only that you will have to start turning up the heat, paying fuel bills and, every so often, tramp through that nasty white stuff known as snow. Of course, you can always say that Christmas will soon be here and maybe I'll get that gear that I always wanted. But if your XYL gets that "something" for your present, you will pay for it anyhow. So whats the difference?

Have you noticed that antennas work FB during the summer and pleasant days and then just as soon as the bad, cold weather sets in they decide to break down? WHY??

W4 land and those islands in the West Indies must have a pipeline into our area for no matter when you tune them in you can always hear their signals when the rest of the band seems dead. You can hear them working DX when you can't even hear a peep. Most

of those stations coming through sound as if they are running 5KW with 1KW of audio. I wonder if our signals sound the same to them? Now is the time to collar that new neighbor of yours and see if he might be interested in electronics and maybe a prospective new member for our code classes this fall, and maybe will become a club member. Don't let the other fellow do it all the time. You never know until you try.

Got a big charge from the pixs of club member's stations as taken by Bill Shaw, WA2PVI, last year and was wondering if the club couldn't stand the expense of having Bill take an up-to-date set for permanent mounting for our club room? We already have the WSLs, why not the pixs? Of course John Poulson, WA2PVH, would be glad to lend his assistance if Bill would want it. Think it over

You know, when Eddie Cantor was living and broadcasting his radio programs, he always began his broadcast and signed off with a very catchy theme song entitled, "I like to spend this hour with you" It was really more than just a song and did divulge how he felt when he was sending his programs over the air. I am no Eddie Cantor, far be it, but I do have a little bit of that feeling when each month I sit down to pound out these articles for CROSSTALK. I am quite sure that there are others in the club who feel the same way and wouldn't it be wonderful if we could just get that same spirit into each member.

*****YARD BY YARD LIFE IS HARD: INCH BY INCH IT'S A CINCH**

Recently I saw this couplet on a cross-stitch sampler in a department store. Like many other folk sayings, it's true. Living each day as it comes, without fretting over what happened yesterday or what may happen tomorrow, is the sure way to serenity. If we can manage to do this, trusting in God's promise to take care of us, life will be a "cinch!" Let's see if we can't carry this thought with us at all times.

Heard several friends of mine bragging-up the 40 meter ssb phone contacts. Seems as this is the "friendly" band, and more personal contacts are made, whereby quite a number of QSO's on the higher frequencies lack this personal touch. Their comments dealt with the fact that a group of FB engineers and professional men can be contacted at different times throughout the day. I dare say that each ham has this same feeling whichever band he is working. To each his own.....

I am informed that my time allotment has expired for this issue, so--

73's es CUL.....Ghost Writer.